



Short Safety Subject

Short Safety Subjects are provided by the Public Safety Business Center, Fort Bragg, NC. Our intent is to provide safety topics for the purpose of increasing safety awareness and improving safety performance. Additional Short Safety Subjects are available on the PSBC Business Management Web Site at:

www.bragg.army.mil/psbc-bm/PubsAndForms/ShortSafetySubjects.htm

Ice Skating

Whether skating or just sliding around on a lake or pond, the same dangers exist. Follow these guidelines:

- Always be wary of ice-covered lakes, ponds, rivers, etc. It may be strong in one place but not another. Cracked areas are especially dangerous.
- In judging the strength of ice, don't be deceived by thickness. Ice a foot thick may not hold child if it is snowy and sun rotted.
- Separated points. Thin spots should be marked.
- About three inches of good solid ice for small groups and four inches for large groups is considered a safe thickness.
- Keep skating surfaces clear of snow. Remember snow melts ice.
- If possible only skate on flooded fields or shallow ponds.
- Do not skate alone on unfamiliar ponds
- Do not skate at night unless the rink or pond is adequately lighted.
- Stop skating before you become overly fatigued.
- Do not skate fast or race others in crowded areas. Beginners should stay in area away from experienced skaters.
- Wear skates that fit properly and are sharp. When carrying skates, cover the blades with guards to protect yourself and others.